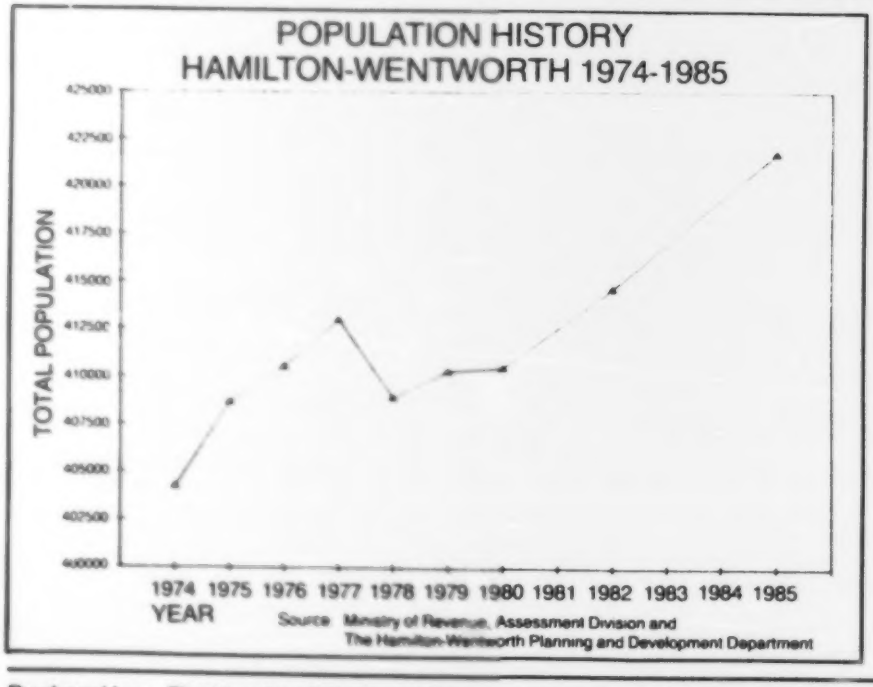
GREATER HAMILTON

Population Trends

Demographics - Report 87 - 1

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Hamilton-Wentworth's population has increased at a moderate but steady rate of 0.5% per year for the last five years.*
- *The Region continued to grow during the recession of the 1980s.*
- *Hamilton-Wentworth is one of only three regions in Southern Ontario that grew faster between 1982 and 1985 than between 1971 and 1981.*
- *Birth rates in the Region are lower than the Provincial average and death rates are higher.*
- *The number of births in Hamilton-Wentworth has been increasing modestly since 1981.*
- *Ontario is the main source and destination of migrants to and from Hamilton-Wentworth.*
- *The Toronto CMA provided 50% of the Hamilton CMA's net migration gains from other Ontario CMAs between 1976 and 1981.*
- *Children (under 15) and 35-44 year olds are expected to be the two largest segments of the Regional population by 1996.*
- *Hamilton-Wentworth has the lowest proportion of children and the third highest proportion of the 65 + age group among the nine Regions in Southern Ontario.*
- *Within the Region, Ancaster has been growing at the fastest rate since 1982, but Stoney Creek has grown the most.*
- *The main growth areas in the Region are urban Stoney Creek, the south Mountain area in Hamilton, Ancaster and Waterdown.*
- *The City of Hamilton's population has decreased by 0.4% since 1982, with virtually all the loss occurring in the lower City.*



GROWTH

Hamilton-Wentworth's population has grown from 404,267 in 1974 when the Region was formed to 421,783 in 1985, a 4.3% increase. Approximately two-thirds of this increase has taken place since 1980.

The Region's average annual growth rate has rebounded from the low levels of the late 1970s to a respectable 0.5% per year in the last five years. The upturn in growth started during the 1980s recession. The main reason for the higher growth rate was a reduction in out-migration.

Produced by: The Hamilton-Wentworth Region • Planning and Development Department • Strategic Planning Division

POPULATION CHANGE
HAMILTON-WENTWORTH
1974 - 1985

Period	Total Population Change	Average Annual Change	Average Annual Growth Rate
1974-1977	8756	2919	0.7%
1977-1980	-2520	-840	-0.2%
1980-1985	11280	2256	0.5%

Source: Ministry of Revenue, Assessment Services Division and The Hamilton-Wentworth Planning and Development Department

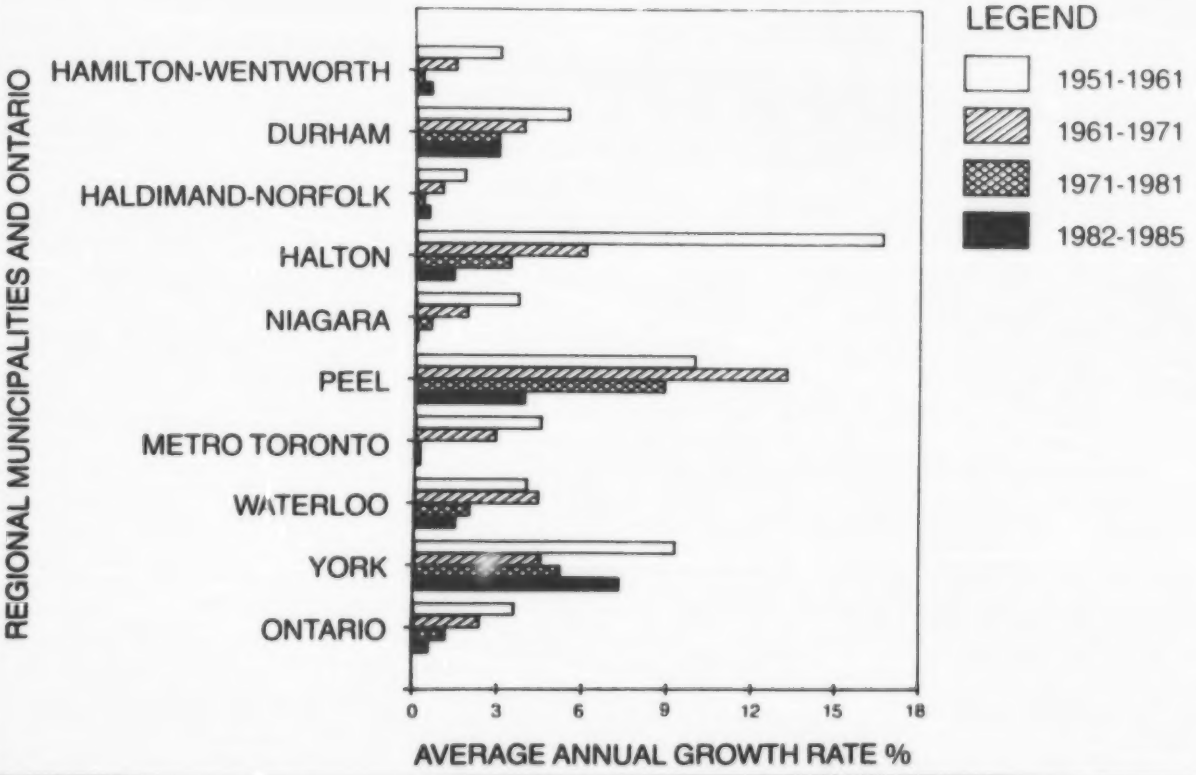
COMPARATIVE GROWTH

Hamilton-Wentworth's growth rate between 1982 and 1985 was sixth highest among the nine Regions in Southern Ontario. The three Regions surrounding Metropolitan Toronto (Peel, York and Durham) continue to have the highest growth rates.

Hamilton-Wentworth is one of only three Regions in Southern Ontario that grew faster between 1982 and 1985 than between 1971 and 1981.

The Region's share of the Provincial population decreased from 5.8% in 1951 to 4.8% in 1981, primarily as a result of rapid growth in the Toronto area. It has remained at approximately 4.75% since 1982.

AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITIES AND ONTARIO
1951 - 1985



MIGRATION

Ontario is the main source and destination of migrants to and from the Hamilton Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), which consists of Hamilton-Wentworth, Burlington and Grimsby. Between 1976 and 1981, 79% of Canadian migrants to the Hamilton CMA came from Ontario, and 73% of the CMA's out-migrants remained in the Province.

The single largest source of net migration gains from other parts of Ontario was the Toronto CMA, which provided 50% of the net migrants to the Hamilton CMA from other Ontario CMAs. The St. Catharines-Niagara CMA provided another 30% of the net migrants from other CMAs. There was also net migration gains from the Kitchener, London, Windsor and Sudbury CMAs.

Hamilton-Wentworth experienced a net loss of approximately 4,000 people to other provinces between 1976 and 1981, mostly to Western Canada. Since Ontario is now gaining migrants from the West as a result of the strong performance of the Ontario economy and the relatively poor performance of the Western economy, it is highly probable that the Hamilton CMA is also gaining migrants from the West.

In 1984, 1,607 of the 88,239 immigrants into Canada gave the Hamilton area as their destination. Thirty-two percent of these immigrants were from South-East Asia, primarily Vietnam and Hong Kong. Over 21% came from Europe, mainly from countries in Eastern Europe.

MIGRATION TO AND FROM HAMILTON CMA
1976 - 1981

Census Metropolitan Area	In-Migrants		Out-Migrants	
Eastern Canada CMAs	750	1.5%	755	1.4%
Quebec CMAs	4,475	8.8%	720	1.3%
Western Canada CMAs	1,930	1.5%	5,475	10.1%
British Columbia CMAs	750	3.8%	2,185	4.0%
Ontario CMAs				
Kitchener	1,915	3.8%	1,745	3.2%
London	1,665	3.3%	1,495	2.8%
Oshawa	390	0.8%	425	0.8%
Ottawa-Hull	1,220	2.4%	1,285	2.4%
St. Catharines-Niagara	3,860	7.6%	2,815	5.2%
Sudbury	495	1.0%	240	0.4%
Thunder Bay	190	0.4%	345	0.6%
Toronto	13,860	27.3%	12,110	22.4%
Windsor	865	1.7%	480	0.9%
Ontario CMAs Subtotal	24,460	48.2%	20,940	38.8%
Non-CMAs				
In Ontario	15,765	31.0%	18,535	34.3%
In Other Provinces	2,665	5.2%	5,425	10.0%
Non-CMAs Subtotal	18,430	36.3%	23,960	44.3%
Total	50,795	100.0%	54,035	100%

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding
Source: Statistics Canada, 1981, Catalogue 92-907

IMMIGRANTS TO HAMILTON AREA 1984

Country of Last Residence	% of Total Immigrants
United Kingdom	9.4%
Europe	21.3%
Caribbean & Guyana	5.8%
Central & South America	6.5%
Middle East	4.2%
Africa	1.6%
South Asia	8.5%
South-East Asia	31.1%
Other Asia	2.2%
United States	8.3%
Other	1.1%

Note: Hamilton is the general destination given by immigrants and may include surrounding municipalities.

Source: Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, Immigration Statistics, 1984.

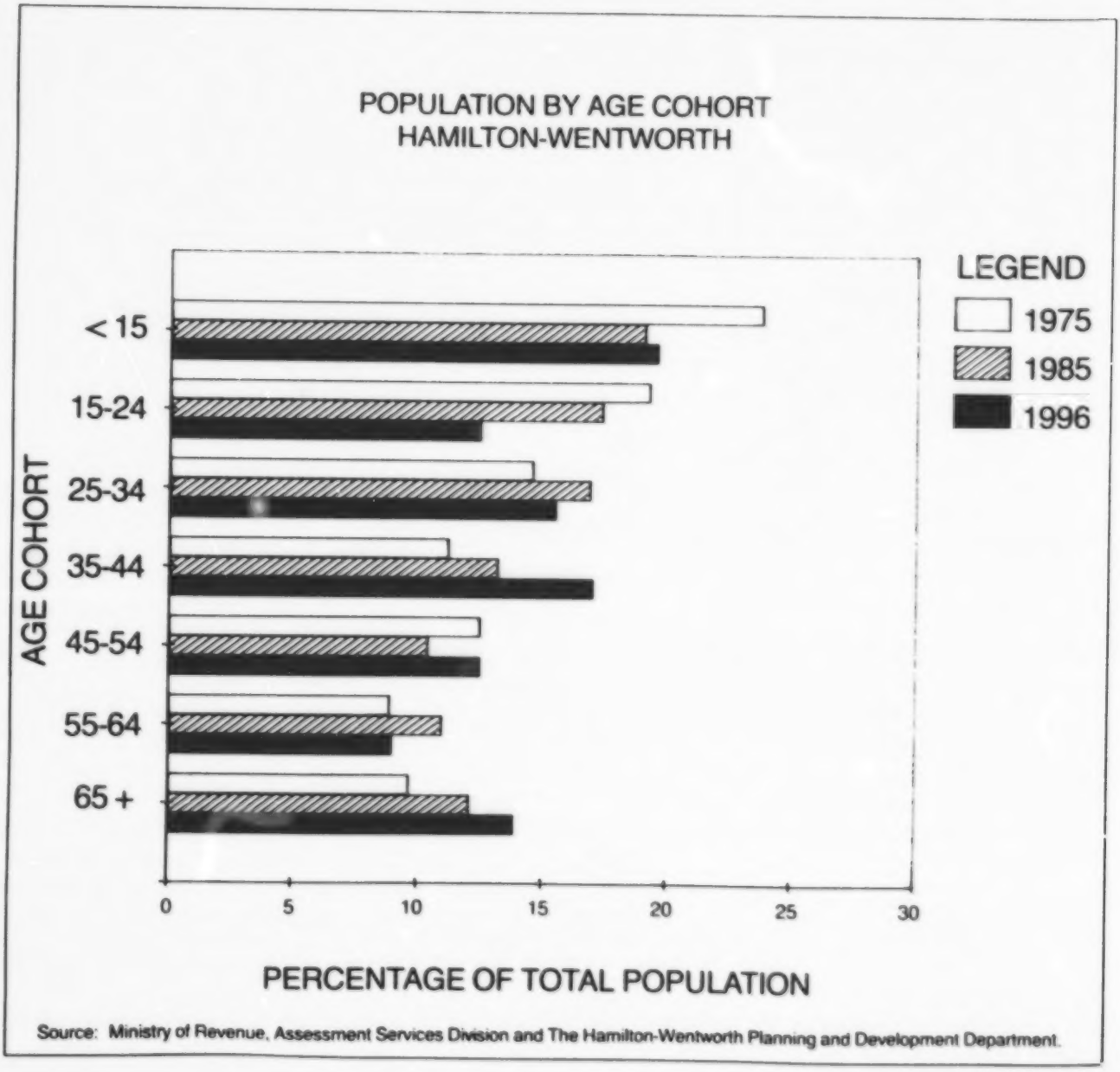
AGE DISTRIBUTION

Although the percentage of children in Hamilton-Wentworth decreased from 24% in 1975 to 19% in 1985, the under 15 age group is still the largest in the Region, and will remain the largest for at least the next ten years.

The share of the Region's population in the 15-24 year old age group is expected to decrease dramatically from 17.4% in 1985 to 12.5% in 1996.

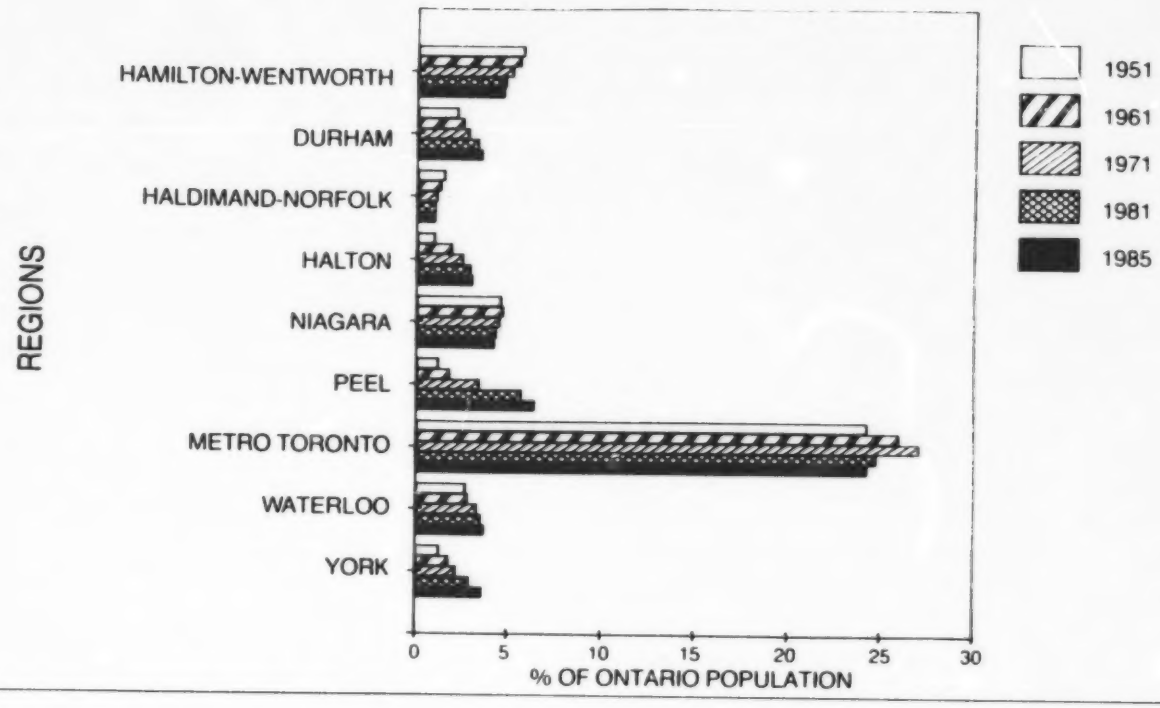
The aging of the "baby boom" generation will increase the size of the 35-44 age group by 41% between 1985 and 1996, a significantly larger increase than for any other age group. Since the under 15 and the 35-44 age groups will be the two largest segments of the population by 1996, policy issues related to children and parenting are likely to become increasingly important.

The number of people in the 65 + age group has increased by 27% in the last ten years. It will continue to grow significantly, which will lead to increased demand for senior citizens' housing and other specialized services and facilities.



Source: Ministry of Revenue, Assessment Services Division and The Hamilton-Wentworth Planning and Development Department.

REGIONAL POPULATION SHARES % OF TOTAL ONTARIO POPULATION 1951 - 1981



POPULATION PROJECTIONS

Projection Type	Region 1986	Region 2001	MTE 2001
High	436,500	479,000	—
Low	422,000	423,000	—
"Most Likely"	428,500	445,000	446,645

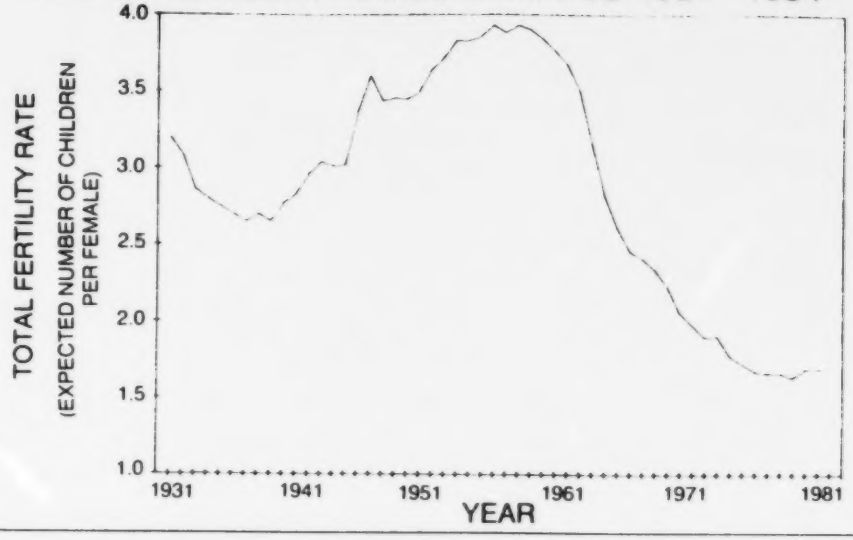
Sources: The Hamilton-Wentworth Planning and Development Department. Hamilton-Wentworth Population Projections 1981 Review, September 1981, and Ministry of Treasury and Economics, Demographic Bulletin, August 1985.

EXPECTED GROWTH

In 1981, the Planning and Development Department published population projections for the Region to the year 2001. The report contained three projections based on different assumptions — a low of 423,000, a high of 479,000, and a most likely of 445,000. The average annual growth rate for the last 5 years has exceeded the growth rate assumed in the most likely projection, offsetting a slower than projected growth rate between 1979 and 1981.

In 1985, the Ontario Ministry of Treasury and Economics (MTE) published Provincial population projections to the year 2006 at the county and regional level. MTE projected a population of 446,645 for Hamilton-Wentworth in 2006, which is consistent with the Region's "most likely" projection.

TOTAL FERTILITY RATES ONTARIO 1931 - 1984



BIRTHS AND DEATHS HAMILTON-WENTWORTH 1974-1985

Year	Births	Deaths	Natural Increase
1974	5,932	3,126	2,806
1975	5,816	3,182	2,634
1976	5,700	3,168	2,532
1977	5,589	3,235	2,354
1978	5,569	3,312	2,257
1979	5,467	3,213	2,254
1980	5,569	3,403	2,166
1981	5,563	3,302	2,261
1982	5,658	3,284	2,374
1983	5,778	3,365	2,413
1984	5,834	3,398	2,536
1985	6,092	3,463	2,629

Source: Registrar General, Province of Ontario, Vital Statistics

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES ONTARIO AND HAMILTON-WENTWORTH 1974-1984

	BIRTH RATES		DEATH RATES	
	HAMILTON-WENTWORTH	ONTARIO	HAMILTON-WENTWORTH	ONTARIO
1974	14.6	15.3	7.7	7.5
1975	14.1	15.3	7.7	7.4
1976	13.9	14.8	7.7	7.3
1977	13.6	14.7	7.9	7.4
1978	13.4	14.3	8.0	7.2
1979	13.1	14.3	7.7	7.2
1980	13.5	14.4	8.3	7.3
1981	13.5	14.2	8.0	7.3
1982	13.6	14.3	7.9	7.3
1983	13.8	14.4	8.1	7.3
1984	14.1	14.7	8.1	7.2

Source: Registrar General, Province of Ontario, Vital Statistics

NATURAL INCREASE

The fertility rate in Ontario reached 3.92 at the peak of the post-war baby boom in 1957. It declined through the 1960s and 1970s, bottomed out at 1.63 in 1981, and then rose slowly. By 1984, it had reached 1.69, still well below the replacement level of 2.1.

Despite the rise in the fertility rate, the slight increase in the number of births in Hamilton-Wentworth since 1981 is primarily a result of an increase in the number of women in the prime childbearing years. The number of births is expected to decrease as the "baby boom" population ages.

Birth rates in Hamilton-Wentworth have been lower than the Provincial average because the Region has a smaller proportion of women in the prime childbearing years. In 1984, the Region's birth rate was 14.1 per thousand, while the Provincial birth rate was 14.7.

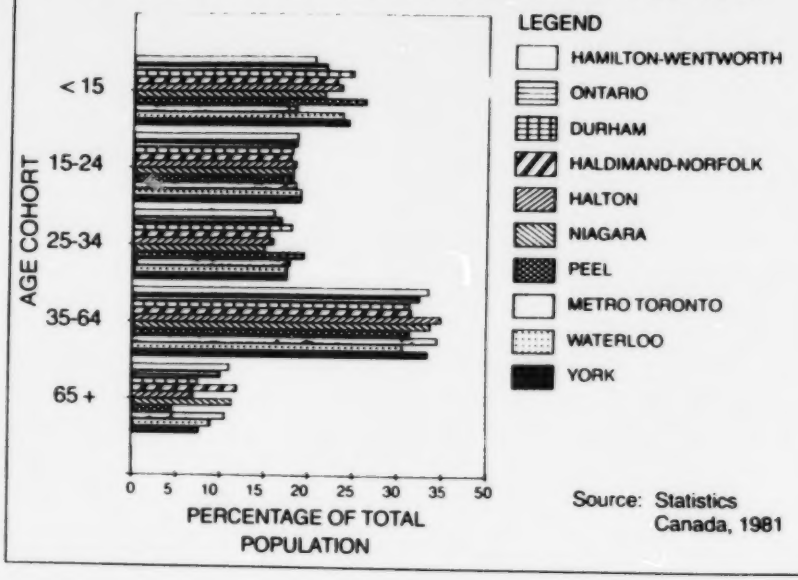
Death rates in Hamilton-Wentworth have been higher than the Provincial average, because the Region has a higher proportion of people over 55. In 1984, the Region's death rate was 8.1 deaths per thousand, while the Provincial death rate was 7.2.

REGIONAL AGE DISTRIBUTION COMPARISONS

The Region's population is older than the Ontario average. In 1981, Hamilton-Wentworth had the second lowest proportion of children and the third highest proportion of the 65 + age group among the nine Regions in Southern Ontario.

Hamilton-Wentworth's age distribution is typical of Regions that have experienced relatively slow growth since 1951. Peel, Durham and York, the fastest growing Regions, have high proportions of their populations in the under 15 age group, and low proportions in the 65 + age group. Hamilton-Wentworth, Haldimand-Norfolk, Niagara and Metropolitan Toronto have large proportions of people in the 55-64 and 65 + age groups.

POPULATION BY AGE COHORT REGIONAL MUNICIPALITIES & ONTARIO 1981



Source: Statistics Canada, 1981

GROWTH IN THE REGION

Ancaster has been the fastest growing municipality in the Region since 1982, but Stoney Creek has grown the most. Ancaster registered a 14.2% increase in population between 1982 and 1985, followed closely by Stoney Creek at 12.9%. Stoney Creek's population increased by over 4,800 people, more than double the increase of any other municipality. Ancaster and Stoney Creek together accounted for 82% of the population growth in the Region between 1982 and 1985.

Flamborough has also been growing faster than the Regional average, with a 4.5% population increase since 1982.

Hamilton's population has decreased by 0.4% since 1982. Virtually all of the population loss occurred in the lower city. Much of the decline consists of young adults moving to the suburbs, leaving behind smaller households and an older population.

The Region's rural areas have experienced minimal population increase during the last five years.

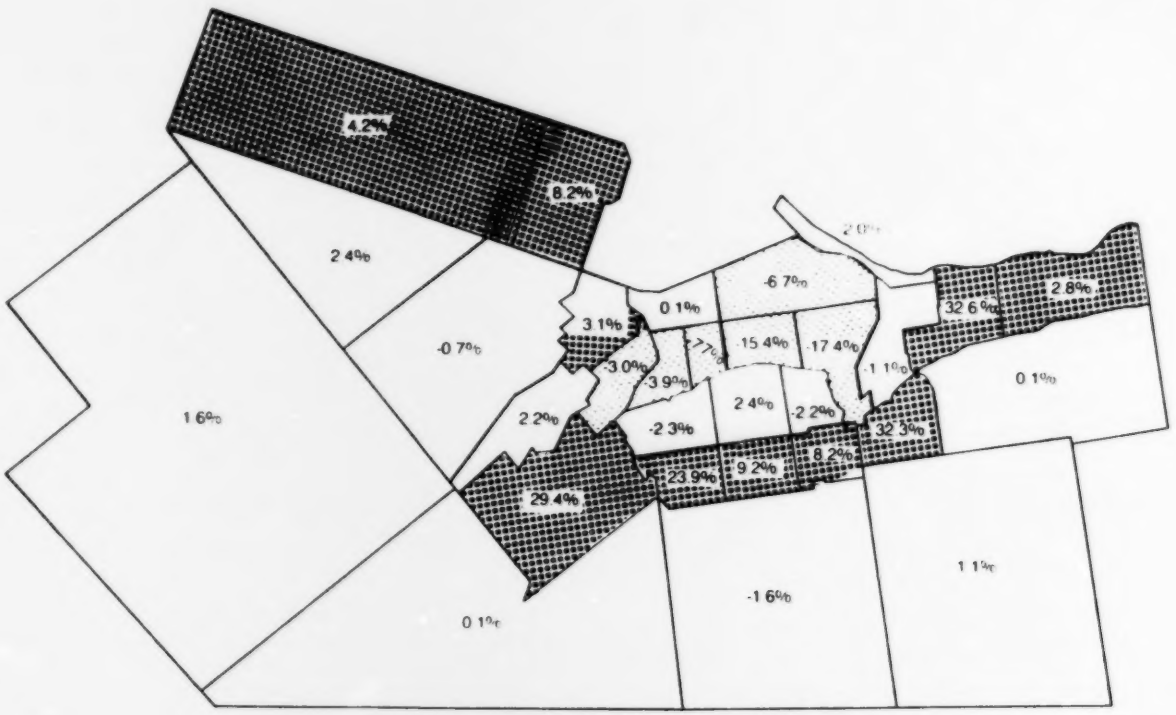
Most of the recent population growth in the Region has been in four areas: urban Stoney Creek, both below and above the Escarpment; the south Mountain area in Hamilton; Ancaster; and Waterdown.

POPULATION GROWTH BY AREA MUNICIPALITY 1982 - 1985

Area Municipality	1982 Population	1985 Population	Growth	% Change
Ancaster	14,780	16,882	2,102	14.2
Dundas	19,689	20,071	382	1.9
Flamborough	25,610	25,727	1,117	4.5
Glanbrook	9,549	9,513	-36	-0.4
Hamilton	308,402	307,140	-1,262	-0.4
Stoney Creek	37,613	42,450	4,837	12.9
Total	414,643	421,783	7,140	1.7

Source: Ministry of Revenue, Assessment Services Division and The Hamilton-Wentworth Planning and Development Department.

SHARE OF REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH FROM 1982 TO 1985



SHARE OF GROWTH FROM 1982 TO 1985

STABLE SHARE	DECREASING SHARE	INCREASING SHARE
> -2.5% < 2.5%	≤ -2.5%	≥ 2.5%

Source: Ministry of Revenue, Assessment Services Division and The Hamilton-Wentworth Planning and Development Department.